THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

India's plan in weapons market

†773. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is making any effort for securing its own place in the vast weapons market of the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c)Yes, Sir. The Ordnance Factory Board and Defence Public Sector Undertakings have been exporting some of their products for several years after meeting domestic requirements. The steps taken to promote exports include - participation in international defence exhibitions, organising biennial international exhibitions namely DEFEXPO and AERO INDIA, distribution of Catalogues and CDs on Indian Defence Products through Indian Embassies, mobilizing involvement of India's Missions abroad in procuring orders for export and pursuing trade enquiries and interaction with foreign delegates/visitors.

Agreement with Russia for manufacture of high-tech defence equipments

774. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our country has signed an agreement with Russia recently for manufacture of high-tech defence equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what will be the mode of payment for technology transfers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.